

SAMPLE
(School Letterhead)

Dear Parents:

SUBJECT: PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)

Head lice have been found at our school today. Please check your child's head and inform us immediately if your child has signs of head lice. We need your help to keep the problem from spreading.

Head lice are insects. They are 1/8" long and light to dark tan in color. The eggs, called nits, are smooth, plump and grayish white in color and are hard to see. They are usually attached to the hair shaft. Newly laid eggs will often be found within 1/4" from the scalp. Head lice is not a serious disease, nor is it related to unclean conditions in the home or school.

Lice are transmitted from person to person by direct contact or by sharing clothing (hats, scarves, etc.) and personal items (combs, brushes, etc.). Please discourage your child from sharing these items.

Please watch your child for excessive scratching and check for nits in the hair, especially around the nape of the neck and behind the ears. The nits are attached to the hair strands and, unlike dandruff, are very difficult to remove.

Any child with lice or nits will be excluded from school until proper treatment has been given. Your doctor or pharmacist can help you choose a treatment product or you can take your child to the local health department. Treatment includes removing all nits. When cases of head lice are identified, it will be necessary to check all other children in the classroom.

Sincerely,